

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) Interface for a lamp operating device (13), ~~having comprising,~~

[-] at least one input-side terminal [(1, 2)] for the connection of bus lines or for connection with a button or switch,

[-] an evaluation logic [(3)] for the processing of signals present at the input-side terminal [(1, 2)] and for the generation of output-side signals for the control of the lamp operating device [(3)], and

[-] at least one electrical isolation element (4), ~~in order adapted to~~ electrically decouple the input-side terminal [(1, 2)] from the lamp operating device [(13)],

wherein the evaluation logic [(3)] is arranged on [[that]] ~~a~~ side of the electrical isolation element (4) ~~which is~~ towards the at least one input-side terminal [(1, 2)], ~~characterised in that, and wherein~~

the evaluation logic [(3)] is supplied with voltage by ~~means of~~ the at least one input-side signal terminal [(1, 2)].

2. (Currently amended) Interface according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that, wherein,~~

the evaluation logic [(3)] is configured to at least partially switch off a connected lamp operating device [(13)].

3. (Currently amended) Interface according to claim 2, ~~characterized in that;~~  
wherein,

the evaluation logic [[(3)]] is configured to transmit by means of the electrical isolation element [[(4)]] signals or commands to the connected lamp operating device (13) ~~by means of which this device so that the lamp operating device~~ is separable from the mains voltage [[(15)]].

4. (Currently amended) Interface according to claim 2 ~~or 3, characterized in that;~~  
wherein,

the lamp operating device [[(13)]] is separable from the mains by means of a relay or an optocoupler controlled triac.

5. (Currently amended) Interface according to ~~any preceding claim;~~  
~~characterized in that;~~ claim 1, wherein,

the evaluation logic [[(13)]] is configured to transmit setting values to [[the]] a connected lamp operating device (13) ~~by means of the same and/or by means of utilizing~~ a separate electrical isolation element [[(4)]].

6. (Currently amended) Interface according to ~~any preceding claim;~~  
~~characterized in that;~~ claim 1, wherein,

the electrical isolation element [[(4)]] is configured also to transmit, in bi-directional manner, signals from a connected lamp operating device [[(13)]] to the input-side terminals and, if applicable, to a bus connected thereto.

7. (Currently amended) Interface according to ~~any preceding claim~~, characterized in that, claim 1, wherein,  
in [[the]] an idle condition, in which no signals are transmitted, a high level signal is present at the input-side terminals, which signal supplies the evaluation logic [[(3)]] with energy.

8. (Currently amended) Interface according ~~any of claims 1 to 6~~, characterized in that, to claim 1, wherein,  
in the idle condition, in which no signals are transmitted, there is present at the input-side terminals a low level signal, and the evaluation logic [[(3)]] can be activated by means of a change to a high level signal.

9. (Currently amended) Interface for a lamp operating device, having comprising,  
[[ - ]] at least one input-side signal terminal [[(1, 2)]] for the connection of a bus line or for connection with a button or switch, and

[-] an evaluation logic [(3)] for the processing of signals present at the at least one input-side terminal [(1, 2)] and for the generation of output-side signals for the control of the lamp operating device (3), characterized in that, wherein,

the evaluation logic [(3)] has a voltage supply independent of the mains voltage supply of the lamp operating device [(13)].

10. (Currently amended) Interface according to claim 9, characterized in that, wherein,

the evaluation logic [(3)] is supplied with voltage by means of the at least one input-side signal terminal [(1, 2)].

11. (Currently amended) ~~Lamp operating device, in particular A ballast for a~~ fluorescent tube, having an interface [(12)] in accordance with ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 1.

12. (Currently amended) Method for the control of a lamp operating device via an interface [(12)], having comprising the following steps:

[-] application of bus signals or button/switch signals to at least one input-side terminal [(1, 2)] of the interface [(12)],

[-] processing of signals present at the input-side terminal and generation of output-side signals for the control of the lamp operating device [(13)], and thereupon

[-]] transmission of the processed control signals by means of an electrical isolation element [(4)] to the lamp operating device [(13)], ~~characterized in that, wherein,~~

the voltage supply for the processing of the signals present at the input-side terminal and for the generation of the output-side signals for the control of the lamp operating device [(13)] is effected via the at least one input-side signal terminal [(1,2)].

13. (Currently amended) Method according to claim 12, ~~characterized in that, wherein,~~

by means of the electrical isolation element [(4)] signals or commands are transmitted to the connected lamp operating device [(13)], ~~by means of which this device so that the lamp operating device is separated from the mains voltage [(15)].~~

14. (Currently amended) Method according to claim 13, ~~characterized in that, wherein,~~

the lamp operating device [(13)] is separated from the mains by means of a relay or an optocoupler controlled triac.

15. (Currently amended) Method according to ~~any of claims 12 to 14, characterized in that claim 12, wherein,~~

by means of the electrical isolation element [(4)] setting values are transmitted to the connected lamp operating device [(13)].

16. (Currently amended) Method according to ~~any of claims 12 to 15~~,  
~~characterized in that claim 12, wherein~~,  
signals are transmitted from a connected lamp operating device [(13)] to  
the input-side terminals [(1, 2)] and, if applicable, to a bus connected thereto.

17. (Currently amended) Method according to ~~any of claims 12 to 16~~,  
~~characterized in that claim 12, wherein~~,  
in [[the]] an idle condition, in which no signals are transmitted, a high  
level signal is present at the input-side terminals [(1, 2)], which signal supplies the evaluation  
logic [(3)] with energy.

18. (Currently amended) Method according to ~~any of claims 12 to 16~~,  
~~characterized in that claim 12, wherein~~,  
in [[the]] an idle condition, in which no signals are transmitted, a low level  
signal is present at the input-side terminals [(1, 2)] and the evaluation logic [(3)] is activated  
by means of a change to a high level signal.